

the Democratic side and distinguished support on the other side. Only the other day I read a statement of former President Taft supporting him."

Great applause on both sides of the chamber followed Mr. Fox's spirited statements.

When Representative Campbell, Republican, of Kansas, arose to speak he read a substitute he said he would propose if a motion to end debate on the rule did not carry. It was as follows:

"Resolved, That in the opinion of the House of Representatives, citizens of the United States, under existing conditions and irrespective of their legal rights, ought to refrain from taking passage on armed vessels of belligerent nations, except in case of imperative necessity."

NO QUESTION OF NATIONAL RIGHTS INVOLVED.

"There is no great question of national rights involved in this issue," declared Mr. Campbell, "nor is there any great crisis involving the honor of the United States at this time. Does any one contend that an American citizen has a right to travel on an armed cruiser of a nation at war?"

"The President is asking Congress to assume the diplomatic function and declare to the world its citizens have the right of taking passage on the armed merchantmen of belligerents."

"This House is to-day confronted with the responsibility of the right to shape a diplomatic function which is solely the right of the Executive. The nations of Europe are fighting for their very existence. Millions of men have been sacrificed in defense of their country. We are quarrelling with those nations to gratify the desire of people to travel on armed ships."

"The thing to-day is to avoid war. The question ought not to have been brought here. Now it is here to vote squarely on a resolution warning citizens of the danger they are in when they get on armed ships of a belligerent."

Representative Harrison of Mississippi, Democrat, took up the debate for the Administration.

"This is not a question for us to divide upon as Democrats or Republicans," said he. "It is a question of America first. It is a question whether you shall rise above narrow partisanship and stand for the American Government. The only safe course for us to pursue is to follow the rights of neutrals under international law. If we allow one column to be taken from the structure of international law we endanger the whole foundation of our Government."

"The question to-day," he concluded, "is whether you are with the President or against him. If this rule is defeated you will not only send joy to the hearts of people in a foreign capital but you stab your own President in the back."

BENNETT FOR WILSON, BUT IS AGAINST RULE.

"The thought furthest from President Wilson's mind is a desire for war," declared Representative Bennett, Republican, of New York. He attacked the rule, however, as "cowardly, evasive and treacherous."

Representative Cantrell, Democrat, of Kentucky, member of the Rules Committee, said he would vote for the rule because only by its adoption could the House put itself on record on the warning resolution issue.

"Thank God that President Wilson is the Chief Executive of the nation now," he declared, amid Democratic applause. "To those who may say that this action involves a question of war I say that to-day's action which we propose is the only way to guarantee peace, and an honorable peace is what we all desire."

Representative Chipfield, Republican, of Illinois, declared he favored standing by the President.

"The people of Illinois," he declared, "are desirous of standing by the President to preserve the flag of the nation untarnished and unsoiled, but

## JEFF McLEMORE, COWBOY-PROSPECTOR, IS USED TO STORMS.

WASHINGTON, March 7.—Jeff McLemore, Congressman from Texas, is getting to be one of the most confirmed and inveterate storm centers in Washington, his friends say, and cite these facts:

He was born in a storm. He has been stormy galore as a cowboy, miner, prospector, newspaperman and politician.

He was the centre to-day of the biggest storm Congress has seen in a long time.

There is no more dangerous man than he who at all times insists on the full measure of his rights, regardless of what disastrous consequences might follow. He is usually either a fool or a knave and sometimes both."

Scattered applause from the Democratic side greeted Representative McLemore's resolution.

"If you want to stand with the President and two ex-Presidents you will vote to sustain the rule and table the McLemore resolution," said he.

Mr. Gardiner was the first Republican to line up squarely with the President in the debate.

LENROOT MAKES PLEA FOR AMENDMENTS.

Representative Lenroot of Wisconsin, Republican, of the Rules Committee declared:

"This House will either defeat this rule, leaving the matter where it is now, in the President's hands, or will defeat the previous question, which will permit amendments to the McLemore resolution, so as to permit this House to express its real sentiment."

Republican applause punctuated his plea for opportunity for amendments. He contended the question was not a partisan one. He attacked Mr. Gardiner, saying: "When he takes the stand he does to-day he lays himself open to the charge of cowardice."

"If you are unwilling to submit to a declaration of war the responsibility is on you now to defeat the previous question," he shouted to a thunderous outburst of applause.

"If this rule is defeated," declared Representative Harrison, Democrat, of Mississippi, an Administration leader, "you will not only send joy to the hearts of a people in a foreign capital, but you stab your own President in the back."

Republican Leader Mann, near the close of debate, was given rapt attention. He said the best way to get a straight vote on a simple warning resolution was to vote down the "previous question." Mann clearly indicated his position in favor of warning Americans.

"The President desires our opinion," said Mann. "We do not express it by tabling the McLemore Resolution unless such action is construed as an invitation to Americans to travel on armed vessels. I do not want to extend that invitation."

"We have not sought to annoy or interfere with the President. But he asks our belief on the subject. Let us tell him frankly and fairly that we do not desire complications which may lead to war."

"This rule would give the House no chance to vote on the real issue, but only to table a resolution the House would under no circumstances agree to."

FIRST TEST VOTE ON PREVIOUS QUESTION.

At 12:44 o'clock all the time for debate on the rule had expired and Representative Garrett of Tennessee moved the previous question. When the Speaker put the question there was a thunderous chorus of "ayes" and "noes."

Representative Campbell, Republican, of Kansas, demanded a division and Representative Fox demanded the roll call. Voting began at 12:46 P. M.

The roll call showed 256 to 160 for the previous question. The result was received by the supporters of the Administration with much enthusiasm. Without delay the House then began the roll call on the adoption of the rule. There was almost a demonstration when it was announced that it was carried by 271 to 128.

The final debate on the tabling of the McLemore resolution was then opened by Representative Rugdale of South Carolina.

"There should be no question in Congress," he said. "Has the President stayed within his rights, or shall this House have to reverse and discredit him?"

"There is no question of national honor involved," replied Representative Ellsworth of Minnesota. "There is no such thing as an armed merchantman. If a vessel is armed it is a vessel of war, and must accept the fortunes of war."

"This is no time for divided loyalty," exclaimed Representative Heflin. "I honor the Republicans who break away from the partisanship of their leader. Here's the question: Wilson or the Kaiser? Landing on Bernstein? Where stands the South in this movement—Tennessee, Virginia, the Old North State, Mississippi?"

He was interrupted by a rebel yell.

SAYS PRESIDENT'S STAND MEANS WAR.

"In Germany the issue was Shall we stand by the Kaiser?" replied Decker of Missouri. "So in England, so in Russia with the Little Entente. This is a republic, thank God! Will you men stand by the American people? Will you go to war on what Mr. Lenroot called a doubtful issue? The men who'll die in the trenches, who'll breathe the asphyxiating gases, and whose mothers want to know 'Why the war?'"

"The President's stand means war. Now, I'm willing to go to war for an American right, but it must be definite right, and vital right. If it was right to warn our citizens in Mexico, and I believe it was—you shall not send the men and women of my district to the hell of Verdun!"

By 10:30 o'clock very early in the House galleries except the diplomat and executive was filled. Women were in the large majority. Richly gowned and furred, they jostled with poorly dressed men who sought seats in the public section. Many of the women brought crochets and embroidery work, their needles flying while waiting for the House to convene. Others brought books and magazines and newspapers.

Many Congressmen were unable to get seats for their families because of the early crush. They vainly tried to use their influence with doorkeepers. The aisles finally were filled with a solid mass of people.

By the time Speaker Clark's gavel sharply boomed the opening of the battle the doorways, aisles and corridors were packed.

CABINET IS TOLD WHAT COL. HOUSE REPORTED.

Future negotiations between this country and the belligerent nations on the submarine issue were discussed at to-day's Cabinet meeting. President Wilson communicated the observations of his personal envoy, Col. E. M. House, just back from a visit to belligerent European capitals. Secretary Lansing laid before the cabinet translations of the appendices to the German memorandum charging Great Britain with ordering its merchant ships to attack and sink German submarines. The President is understood to have indicated clearly that Col. House's report showed both Berlin and London ready to accept the proposition of terminating the blockade and the means of accomplishing their reluctant.

Col. House probably will not return to New York to-day as expected, but will remain in Washington longer in order to confer again with Secretary Lansing before the latter sends a communication to Great Britain asking for information relative to the German charges.

SENATOR SUTHERLAND, REPUBLICAN, TAKES STAND FOR PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON, March 7.—The Senate returned again to-day to the discussion of the armed ship issue, although the Gore resolution, similar to McLemore's, was killed there last Friday. Senator Sutherland of Utah, a Republican member of the Foreign Relations Committee, stood squarely behind President Wilson in his policy in dealing with Germany in the submarine negotiations.

"I do not want war at any time," said Senator Sutherland, "and I pray God that it may not come now, but I would rather have war with all its sacrifices and suffering, than that this nation, with its long history of heroism and glory, should play the part of a nation when confronted by a supreme national duty, because it places a greater value upon its ease than upon its honor."

"A nation, when all other means fail, that will not resent a flagrant and illegal attack upon the lives of its own citizens, is only less detestable than a man who will not fight for his wife and children. And, believing as I do about that, if the life of an American citizen is again

taken by the illegal and deliberate sinking without warning of a merchant ship, unarmed or armed only in defense, this Government should hold the offending nation to a stern reckoning."

"To concede the right of a submarine to sink a vessel armed for defense alone, without warning, and opportunity for crew and passengers to escape in safety will be to invite the sinking of unarmed vessels without warning as well. It is well nigh impossible for officers of a submarine to determine in advance whether a given vessel is armed or not."

"If, therefore, the commander of a submarine claims to act upon appearance, we shall never be able to determine whether these appearances justified his conclusion until after the vessel and her crew and passengers have gone to the bottom of the sea and in some cases not even then. The result will be that unarmed vessels, while possessing immunity in theory, will have none in fact."

"If a citizen take passage upon a ship armed for defense alone and lose his life by the sinking of the ship without warning, what must be the contention and claim of this Government? To my mind, the citizen of a clear right has been deprived of his life by the deliberately illegal acts of the belligerent Government which sent the submarine on its mission of death. I can conceive of no other position for this Government to forfeit the respect of mankind by becoming a craven thing, it must be prepared to sustain that position at whatever cost or consequence."

McLEMORE RESOLUTION WILSON'S SUPPORTERS HOPE TO KILL TO-DAY.

WASHINGTON, March 7.—The text of the McLemore resolution, following a lengthy preamble is as follows:

"Resolved, That the House of Representatives of the United States, do, and it hereby solemnly does, request the President to warn all American citizens, within the borders of the United States or its possessions or elsewhere, to refrain from traveling on any and all ships of any and all of the Powers now or in future at war, which ship or ships shall mount guns, whether such ship be frankly avowed a part of the naval forces of the Power whose flag it flies, or shall be called a merchant ship or otherwise, and whether such gun or guns are of any kind, called 'offensive' or 'defensive,' and in case American citizens do travel on such armed belligerent ships, that they do so at their own risk."

"That when the President of the United States or the Secretary of State shall come into possession of the actual memorandum of the German Government, containing photographic fac-similes of alleged secret instructions direct to so-called 'defensive' armament for merchant ships, shall be used offensively and that so-called 'defensive' armament for merchant ships shall be manned and directed by naval officers and men of the navy of Great Britain and that such so-called 'defensive' armament for merchant ships and such naval officers and men shall be concealed and disguised when in neutral waters and ports, with the evident intention to deceive, the President of the United States or the Secretary of State shall at the earliest possible moment transmit such actual memorandum to the German Government, with such fac-similes of alleged secret instructions direct to so-called 'defensive' armament for merchant ships, shall be used offensively and that so-called 'defensive' armament for merchant 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